

St Nicholas Playgroup

St Nicholas Church, 2 High Street, Strood, Rochester, Kent, ME2 4TR



Inspection date

11 February 2015

Previous inspection date

25 March 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Staff use assessment processes that are precise and accurate. Children's individual needs are met through a combination of child and adult-led learning experiences which help children to make good progress.
- Staff help children to lead healthy lifestyles through encouraging them to be active indoors and going on local walks.
- Children learn to manage their own personal hygiene routines and to keep themselves safe because staff help children become independent and therefore, ready for the next stage in their learning.
- The manager provides staff with opportunities for to attend additional training courses to enhance their professional development and practices. Therefore, raising the quality of teaching and learning outcomes for children.
- Management and staff provide a welcoming and secure environment for children. This is underpinned by required policies and procedures.
- Management has a thorough system to evaluate the provision, taking into account the views of parents, carers, staff and children.
- Management and staff have a good working relationship with parents. This has a positive impact on children's learning and development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Staff do not provide a wide enough range of resources to enable children to fully learn about other cultures and difference in the world.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To further improve the quality of the early years provision the provider should:

- enhance the range of resources to reflect and support children's understanding of the wider world and other cultures and customs.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children and adult interaction and looked at learning folders.
- The inspector sampled the required policies and procedures, staff qualifications and the Disclosure and Barring Service checks.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the provider.
- The inspector took into account the views of the parents, children and staff.
- The inspector discussed the quality of teaching with manager.

Inspector

Alberta Minta-Jacobs

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

The quality of teaching is good because staff provide learning experiences that capture children's interest and meet their individual needs. As a result, children are eager and motivated to learn. Staff deployment is good. They skilfully engage in discussions and ask children questions which help to develop their communication and language skills. Children enjoy listening and taking part in story sessions. They join in and repeat familiar lines from their favourite stories. This helps to develop children's listening skills, which supports the development of skills they need for the next stage in their learning and development. However, although the educational programme effectively covers most areas. Staff do not always provide enough activities and resources to fully support children's understanding of other cultures and difference in the wider world.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good

Staff organise resources well. They display children's photos and art-work which helps children to feel valued and gives them a sense of belonging. Staff support children to make friends and interact with each other. This helps to develop their social skills. Children behave well because staff provide clear guidance as to what is acceptable behaviour and use distraction techniques to help them manage their behaviour and feelings. Children are confident and independent as they learn to manage their own personal hygiene needs, make choices and initiate ideas during play. The staff have links with school teachers and professionals from other settings children attend which ensures that information is passed to support continuity of children's learning and development.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good

The provider shows a good understanding of her responsibilities to meet all the legal safeguarding and welfare requirements. All previous recommendations has been addresses successfully which shows the capacity to improve. Staff understand the safeguarding policies and procedures which means that they know what to do should they have any concerns about children in their care. Staff training has raised the quality of teaching which means that children are making good progress. Ongoing monitoring of staff through supervisions and appraisals enables the manager to support staff in their daily practices and the implementation of the educational programmes.

Setting details

Unique reference number	103850
Local authority	Medway Towns
Inspection number	839260
Type of provision	Sessional provision
Registration category	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	20
Number of children on roll	34
Name of provider	Diane Chamberlain
Date of previous inspection	25 March 2009
Telephone number	07801 907620

St Nicholas Playgroup opened in 1989. It is situated in the town of Strood, Kent. The playgroup opens from 9.15am to 11.45am and 12.30pm to 3pm. It is registered on the Early Years Register and in receipt of funding to provide free early education for children aged two-, three- and four-years-old. The playgroup employs four members of staff, of whom one holds Early Years Professional status.

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